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On: JUNE 20, 2002

By:

LINDA E. HASTINGS

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Takaaki NAGAI

Serial No.: 09/837,734

Filed: April 17, 2001

Title: **NON-VOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR STORAGE  
APPARATUS AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF**

Examiner: Douglas W. Owens

Group Art Unit: 2811

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**ELECTION**

SIR:

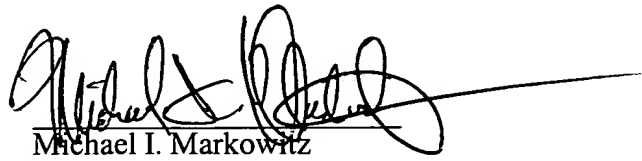
In response to the Office Action mailed on May 21, 2002, the period for responding thereto having been set to expire after June 20, 2002, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-8, for prosecution at this time. Applicant reserves the right to file continuing application(s) based on claims 9-18. Early examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



Michael I. Markowitz  
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